

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT E-NEWS



A Bimonthly E-Newsletter

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Contact "Us"

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Center for Community Engagement

Curious about service-learning, community and civic engagement, or volunteering? Come visit the Center for Community Engagement at Parkland College in C-134! We can help you add service-learning or community engagement to your course, or find an organization in our community that would welcome your support. We have resources to fit every need.

At this time, the Center is open by appointment. Simply contact Brian Nudelman (bnudelman@parkland.edu or 217-351-2534) to schedule a visit!

In addition, while Covid-19 continues to impact the work of the Center, Adult Education's **Project READ** is still supporting our community through in-person and virtual adult tutoring on Wednesdays in the Center! Please look for more information on joining Project READ later in this *E-News*.



Occupational Therapy / Family Service Senior Citizen Activity Boxes!

Once again, the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program at Parkland College, in collaboration with local nonprofit Family Service, will be designing and delivering engaging activity boxes for senior citizens in our community through the Meals on Wheels program.

Filled with thoughtful mindfulness activities, creative art projects, music, and positivity, these activity boxes will be designed by our OTA students, and constructed by various groups at Parkland, such as the International Student Association, *The Prospectus* student newspaper, Phi Theta Kappa, and Alpha Phi Omega.

If you would like to join in and help construct these boxes, please contact Brian at bnudelman@parkland.edu.

Garden Hills Homework Club is Back!



The Homework Club is back, and in person! Indeed, beginning on September 27, Parkland tutors will again mentor 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students at Garden Hills Academy. And we need your help! We welcome students, faculty, and staff to join us this semester in helping to support the academic development of our Homework Club kids....and it takes just one hour a week!

For information about volunteering with the Homework Club, please contact:

**Brian Nudelman (bnudelman@parkland.edu), or
Lauren Smith (smithla@u4sd.org)**

The mission of the Parkland College Center for Community Engagement is to support and promote the active engagement of the College's students, faculty, and staff in partnership with the communities of Illinois Community College District 505.

In collaboration with the community-based organizations of District 505, and through such co-curricular forms of community engagement as service-learning and volunteerism, the Center for Community Engagement not only supports Parkland College's commitment to "engage the community in learning," but also help fulfil our commitment to value "active citizenship."

Online Resources

- [Parkland College Center for Community Engagement](#)
- [United Way of Champaign County](#)
- [National Service-Learning Clearinghouse](#)



How to Help During COVID-19

Feeding Our Kids was founded in 2013 by Ann Kirkland and Jenelle Thompson-Keene after they learned that kids were going home hungry at the schools their children attended. The program started with 18 kids at Westview and Robeson Elementary schools in Champaign. Since then, they have grown to support more than 1,000 school-aged children in 36 schools and childhood programs across Champaign County and Tuscola. These children receive bags of nutritious snacks on weekends and holidays through Feeding Our Kids.

For more information on volunteers with and/or supporting Feeding Our Kids, please visit <https://feedingourkids.org/>

DREAAM is a community impact organization with the mission to reach, teach and invest in boys and young men placed at risk with a targeted focus on Black males.

DREAAM stands for Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males, and the primary aim is to: increase positive outcomes—academic achievement, behavioral health, college readiness, and decrease negative outcomes—suspensions, drop-out rates, violence.

At this time, DREAAM is providing in-person and virtual learning support through tutoring, remote homework help, interactive literacy enrichment, small-group social emotional learning, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) skills.

For more information on how connect with DREAAM, please visit: www.dreaam.org

The Parkland College Adult Education program **Project READ** is offering new, interactive online platforms for volunteer tutor training, learner intake, tutor support, and tutor-learner introductions. Project READ offers free, learner-centered ESL, Literacy, and Math tutoring services.

For more information on free tutoring, becoming a tutor, or any other questions, please contact a Project READ team member at: ProjectREAD@parkland.edu

For additional ways to help out, please visit the [Illinois Disaster Volunteerism](#) page.

